

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended. Applicants are submitting these amendments to advance prosecution of the subject matter of the amended claims, rather than in acquiescence to any of the specific positions expressed in the Office Action. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute, in this or other related cases, subject matter ceded by the present amendments.

No new matter is added by the amendment to claim 1 or the newly presented claims. Support for the amendment to claim 1 and the newly presented claims can be found on at least page 4, lines 16-19, page 6, line 27 - page 7, line 18, page 8, lines 16-23, page 10, lines 19-25, page 14, lines 22 - page 16, line 9, page 19, lines 3-26 and throughout the specification.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (“Lee”; U.S. Patent No. 5,658,515). Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite a device comprising one or more microneedles having at least one substantially annular channel therethrough, and having a length between about 1 μm and 1 mm and a diameter between about 1 μm and 100 μm , and a substrate to which the one or more microneedles is attached.

Lee discloses a polymer micromold and a fabrication process. Col. 2, ll. 33-35. The micromold may be used to produce microneedles. Col. 2, ll. 8-12. However, Lee fails to teach or suggest a substrate to which one or more microneedles is attached.

As Lee fails to teach or suggest all aspects of the presently claimed invention, Lee fails to anticipate the present claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim 1 as amended and new claims 2-14 are patentable over Lee.

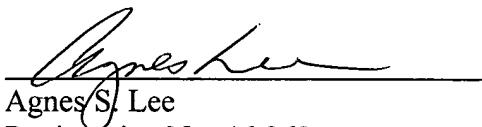
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections and objections. Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions after reviewing this paper, the

Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 617-951-7000 (direct dial: 617-951-7794).

Respectfully submitted,
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